



# BERKHAMPSTEAD DAY NURSERY

## Notes from the Day Nursery...

### Welcome to our March newsletter

Dear Parents,

I can't quite believe I am writing my first newsletter after returning from maternity leave – where did that 9 months go!? I would firstly like to say a big thank you to Mollie in particular, and all the staff for doing such a great job whilst I was off.

After all that snow, it is finally starting to feel a bit like spring around the nursery. We have had a very exciting delivery of living eggs in preschool! The children have been thrilled to observe the chicks hatching and are looking forward to caring for them and holding them, once they are big enough to be handled. There have been lovely activities going on here at the Day Nursery - the planting of seeds, and beautiful artwork of spring flowers and animals are appearing all over the Nursery.

We are thinking of introducing a new imaginative and creative movement class to the nursery, called Tappy Toes. The children very much enjoyed their taster session when they went on a magical carpet ride. We would like to introduce this lovely class on a Thursday afternoon. If you would be interested in signing your child up for this class and would like further information, please take a look at their website [www.tappytoes.com](http://www.tappytoes.com). Please then tell your child's key person if you would like sign up, so we can get an idea of numbers. The class will be suitable from Cuddly Bears through to Wise Bears and all children are welcome to attend.

### Healthy Eating Week

The kitchen planned an exciting week of healthy eating activities. The younger children explored and tasted fruit and vegetables, Fuzzy bears enjoyed vegetable printing and painting, Teddy Bears grew cress and Wise Bears made a fresh fruit salad. The kitchen planned some delicious meals, including a tasty roasted vegetable curry.

### Staffing Update

We are sorry to say goodbye to both Amys. Amy from Bear Cubs is moving over to the School Kindergarten at Easter, and Amy from Cuddly Bears is moving to a new nursery closer to her home in Cirencester. We would like to wish them both well in their new roles; they will be greatly missed.

We are pleased to welcome Louise into the Bear Cub team. Louise is moving from Scotland and has lots of experience working with babies. We are also pleased to tell you Caroline Stanley who you will know from her flexible role, will become part of the Cuddly Bear team. Molly from Cuddly Bears will be moving up to Fuzzy Bears - a lovely familiar face for the children she is moving up with. We also have Alison joining us to work in the under two's department. Alison is a mum of two young children herself and is very keen to work with babies.



THURSDAY 15TH MARCH

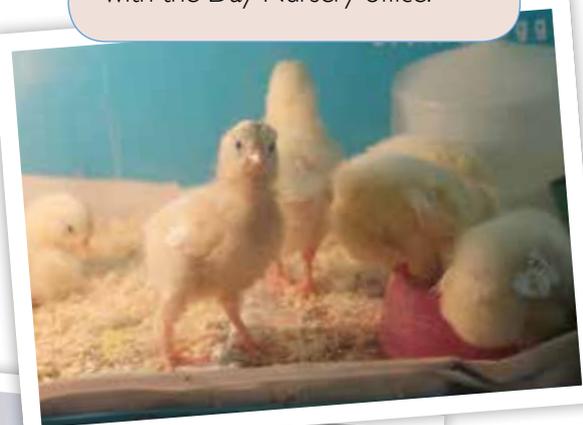
## Diary dates...

**Thursday 26th April  
between 4.30 and 5pm  
Spring Menu Tasting Event**

All parents are welcome to join us in sampling some tasty dishes from the new spring menu

**Wednesday 28th March  
6pm to 8pm  
Parent First Aid Course**

If you would still like to book a place then please get in touch with the Day Nursery office.





## BERKHAMPSTEAD DAY NURSERY

# Notes from the Day Nursery... *continued*

Mary will be leaving us in April to have her 3rd boy! Deborah, (pictured) has joined the office team and will job share with Hannah who will be returning from maternity leave at the end of April.

### **Uniform**

It's lovely to see so many of our children in the Berky Bears uniform. If you would like to purchase a uniform for your little one and save their own clothes from getting messy, then they can be purchased from the Day Nursery office.

### **Polite reminder**

Breakfast is served between 8am and 9am. Breakfast needs to be cleared away by 9am so that the rooms can set up their exciting activities for the day. If you would like your child to have breakfast could we please ask that they arrive before 8.45am.



*Best Wishes  
Smily and the team...*





# BERKHAMPSTEAD DAY NURSERY

## News from the Rooms ...



### **BEAR CUBS:**

For baby bears from 3 - 18 months

This month we have been focusing on 'The World Around Us'.

The Bear Cubs have shown a particular interest in role play in the kitchen area and they are loving playing with dolls, so we have created the 'Bear Cub Café!' Our Bear Cubs have also made biscuits and decorated them, and there is plenty of food in our sensory tray for the children to explore. We are teaching the babies two 'signs' each month. This month our signs are 'Dolly' and 'Eat'. We will be sending out slips each week explaining the two signs of the month.



### **CUDDLY BEARS:**

For toddler bears 18 - 24 months

This month our theme is 'Under the Sea.'

We chose this theme because the children love listening to the song 'Baby Shark' and therefore we thought it would be a great idea to plan a theme around something that the children love.

Also, during the next few weeks, when the weather improves, we will be doing a lot of gardening, ensuring that we make the most of the nature garden, as the children have so much fun in there!





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## News from the Rooms ...



### **FUZZY BEARS:**

For growing bears 2 - 2½

Our children loved playing in all the recent frost and snow, and we created lovely snowy winter pictures. We put buckets of water outside over night, which were filled with plastic dinosaurs, and the children had great fun smashing the ice to reveal the prehistoric creatures!

The children recently made a Mother's Day card, and playdough and painting have been very popular. Feet stamping and hand painting went down particularly well! Easter activities are being planned including Easter egg hunts, chocolate play and lots of arts and crafts.



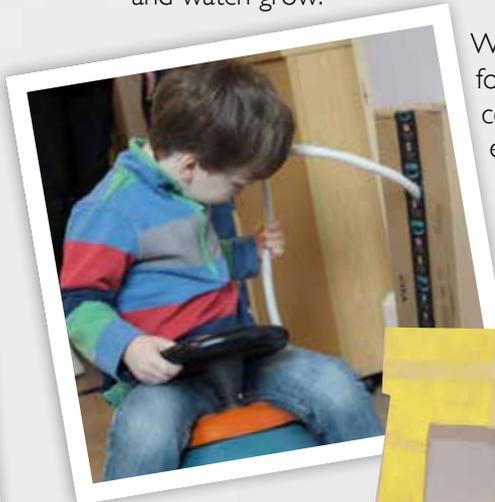
### **TEDDY BEARS:**

For happy bears 2½ - 3½

Following the children's interest in cars, we made a road complete with traffic lights, which the children loved! We even had our very own car wash and petrol pump! The children have also helped to make our own sit-in car which they have loved playing in, and it certainly stretched little imaginations!

With Spring arriving soon, we have created our own little garden with pots, flowers, soil and watering cans as well as our vegetable patch with carrots and potatoes. The children have also planted their own sunflower seeds to take home and watch grow.

We are looking forward to celebrating Easter, enjoying Easter Egg hunts and making our own chocolate Easter eggs.





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## News from the Rooms ...



### **WISE BEARS:** For curious bears 3½ - 5 years

Wise Bears have been very busy! The children enjoyed making Valentine's Day presents for their loved ones including necklaces, cards and even a red rose!

The snowy weather was a great opportunity to have fun in the frost, ice and snow while learning about what happens to water in the cold weather.

The children made a snowball and watched it melt inside the warm. We also left water outside to freeze and had great fun playing with the ice.

One of our children brought in a pirate outfit which sparked an interest in pirates which has developed into a theme for the last few weeks. We have made treasure maps, a pirate island, flags and even a pirate ship.

The arrival this week of hen eggs and an incubator has been very exciting and a wonderful way to learn about life cycles! This week chicks have been hatching and our children have loved watching the chicks emerging from the eggs. We will be keeping them for a week and the children will care for them in the brooding box, watching them grow and thrive. Following on from our interest in live chicks, we will be doing lots of Easter activities including making Easter treats and creating art work.

